

STATE SENATOR • RAYMOND E. BASHAM • 8TH DISTRICT

# Basham Press Release

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## **BASHAM WELCOMES MILLIONS IN ROAD INVESTMENTS FOR DOWNRIVER** **Funding Part of Governor's *Jobs Today* Initiative**

**LANSING** -- Senator Ray Basham (D-Taylor) today welcomed the announcement of more than \$50 million in Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) Greenlight project investment for road reconstruction and rehabilitation Downriver. These projects supplement MDOT's previous commitments to road and bridge investments over the next five years.

"Preserving and enhancing our existing transportation infrastructure is critical to the continued economic growth of our area," said Sen. Basham. "Job creation is tied to economic growth and that means we must keep our transportation system competitive."

Downriver projects include \$41 million dollars for reconstruction of the I-75 Gibraltar to Toledo DIX and more than \$15 million in bridge repairs along the I-75 corridor. The current 158 Greenlight projects are part of Governor Granholm's *Jobs Today* initiative and are expected to generate more than 11,000 jobs statewide. The Greenlight project was developed by MDOT to maximize use of federal dollars and bring Michigan's roads and bridges into good repair by 2007.

"The *Jobs Today* Initiative and the investments we are announcing today will help put more Michigan workers back on the job," said Governor Granholm. "Local communities will benefit from transportation system improvements, and our state will benefit from the significant economic impact of the more than 11,000 jobs supported by these projects."